

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim [[15]] 63, wherein, when the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus and the external processing apparatus are in an offline state, the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus reads out a file for building up the ~~controlling part~~ image forming function from a storage area included in the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus, builds up the ~~controlling part~~ image forming function in the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus, and controls the ~~image-formation unit~~ at least one of the hardware resources when a request is made to the ~~controlling part~~ image forming function built in the image handling apparatus.

31. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 30, wherein, while the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus and the external processing apparatus are in an online state, a file for building up the ~~controlling part~~ image forming function is transferred from the external processing apparatus to the storage area.

32. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim [[28]] 63, wherein, while the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus and the external processing apparatus are in an offline state, at least a part of the user interface ~~of the controlling part~~ is transferred from the external processing apparatus to a storage area, and at least the part of the user interface ~~of the controlling part~~, which is read out from the storage area, ~~is provided to the requesting part~~.

33. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 30, wherein,
while the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus and the external processing apparatus are in an online state, the ~~image formation unit~~ at least one of the hardware resources is controlled when a request is made to ~~the controlling part built in~~ the external processing apparatus, and,

while the image ~~handling~~ forming apparatus and the external processing apparatus are in ~~[[an]]~~ the offline state, the ~~image formation unit~~ at least one of the hardware resources is controlled when a request is made to ~~the controlling part built in~~ the image handling apparatus.

34-62. (Canceled)

63. (New) A system, comprising:
an image forming apparatus, including at least one of hardware resources of a scanner and a plotter, that provides an image forming function for forming an image by using the at least one of the hardware resources as a Web service; and

an external processing apparatus configured to control the image forming function of the image forming apparatus by using the Web service provided by the image forming apparatus, wherein the image forming apparatus and the external processing apparatus are connected to each other through a network,

a Web server of the external processing apparatus sends screen data of a user interface of the image forming function to a Web browser of the image forming apparatus in response to a screen update instruction sent from the Web browser of the image forming apparatus;

the Web browser of the image forming apparatus displays the user interface of the image forming function at an operation part of the image forming apparatus by using the

screen data of the user interface of the image forming function received from the Web server of the external processing apparatus;

when a request with respect to the image forming function is received from the user interface of the image forming function displayed at the operation part of the image forming apparatus, the Web browser of the image forming apparatus sends a request to the Web server of the external processing apparatus;

a Web service client of the external processing apparatus instructs an execution of the image forming function to a Web service server of the image forming apparatus based on the request from the Web browser of the image forming apparatus; and

the Web service server executes the image forming function based on an instruction of the execution of the image forming function sent from the Web service client of the external processing apparatus.

64. (New) The system as claimed in claim 63, wherein the Web service client of the external processing apparatus sends a request of the screen update instruction to the Web service server of the image forming apparatus;

the Web service server of the image forming apparatus sends a request of the screen update instruction to the Web browser of the image forming apparatus based on the request of the screen update instruction sent from the Web service client of the external processing apparatus; and

the Web browser of the image forming apparatus sends the screen update instruction to the Web server of the external processing apparatus based on the request of the screen update instruction sent from the Web service server of the image forming apparatus.

65. (New) The system as claimed in claim 63, wherein a screen flow control part of the external processing apparatus generates the screen data of the user interface of the image forming function based on the screen update instruction, and sends the screen data to the Web server of the external processing apparatus.

66. (New) A method implemented by an image forming apparatus, including at least one of hardware resources of a scanner and a plotter, that provides an image forming function for forming an image by using the at least one of the hardware resources as a Web service, the image forming apparatus and an external processing apparatus to be connected to each other through a network, wherein the external processing apparatus controls the image forming function of the image forming apparatus by using the Web service provided by the image forming apparatus, the method comprising:

sending, from a Web browser of the image forming apparatus, a screen update instruction;

receiving, at the Web browser of the image forming apparatus, screen data of a user interface of the image forming function in a response to the screen update instruction;

displaying, with the Web browser of the image forming apparatus, the user interface of the image forming function at an operation part of the image forming apparatus by using the screen data of the user interface of the image forming function;

sending, with the Web browser of the image forming apparatus, a request to the external processing apparatus, when a request with respect to the image forming function is received from the user interface of the image forming function displayed at the operation part of the image forming apparatus;

receiving, at a Web service server of the image forming apparatus, an instruction of an execution of the image forming function based on the request sent with the Web browser of the image forming apparatus; and

executing, with the Web service server, the image forming function based on the instruction of the execution of the image forming function received based on the request sent with the Web browser.

67. (New) A system, comprising:

a first image forming apparatus that provides a first image forming function for forming an image by using a scanner as a first Web service;

a second image forming apparatus that provides a second image forming function for forming an image by using a plotter as a second Web service;

an external processing apparatus that controls the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus and the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus by using the first Web service provided from the first image forming apparatus and the second Web service provided from the second image forming apparatus, wherein the first image forming apparatus, the second image forming apparatus, and the external processing apparatus are connected through a network;

a Web server of the external processing apparatus sends screen data of user interfaces of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus and the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus to a Web browser of the first image forming apparatus, in response to a screen update instruction from the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus;

the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus displays the user interfaces by using the screen data of the user interfaces of the first image forming function and the second

forming function received from the Web server of the external processing apparatus at an operation part of the first image forming apparatus;

when a request with respect to the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus and the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus is received from the user interfaces of the first image forming function and the second forming function displayed at the operation part of the first image forming apparatus, the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus sends a request to the Web server of the external processing apparatus;

a Web service client of the external processing apparatus instructs an execution of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus to a Web service server of the first image forming apparatus based on the request from the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus;

the Web service server of the first image forming apparatus executes the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus based on an instruction of the execution of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus sent from the Web service client of the external processing apparatus;

after the execution of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus, the Web service client of the external processing apparatus instructs an execution of the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus to a Web service server of the second image forming apparatus based on the request from the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus; and

the Web service server of the second image forming apparatus executes the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus based on the instruction of the execution of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus sent from the Web service client of the external processing apparatus.

68. (New) The system as claimed in claim 67, wherein the Web service client of the external processing apparatus sends a request of a screen update instruction to the Web service server of the first image forming apparatus;

the Web service server of the first image forming apparatus sends a request of the screen update instruction to the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus based on the request of the screen update instruction sent from the Web service client of the external processing apparatus; and

the Web browser of the first image forming apparatus sends the screen update instruction to the Web server of the external processing apparatus based on the request of the screen update instruction sent from the Web service server of the first image forming apparatus.

69. (New) The system as claimed in claim 67, wherein a screen flow control part of the external processing apparatus generates the screen data of the user interfaces of the first image forming function and the second image forming function based on the screen update instruction, and sends the screen data to the Web server of the external processing apparatus.

70. (New) A method implemented by an external processing apparatus that controls a first image forming function of a first image forming apparatus and a second image forming function of a second image forming apparatus by using a first Web service provided from the first image forming apparatus and a second Web service provided from the second image forming apparatus, the first image forming apparatus, the second image forming apparatus, and the external processing apparatus to be connected through a network, the first image forming apparatus providing the first image forming function for forming an image by using

a scanner as the first Web service, the second image forming apparatus providing the second image forming function for forming an image by using a plotter as the second Web service, the method comprising:

sending, with a Web server of the external processing apparatus, screen data of user interfaces of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus and the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus to the first image forming apparatus, in response to a screen update instruction from the first image forming apparatus;

receiving, at the Web server of the external processing apparatus, a request from the first image forming apparatus, in a response to the screen data of the user interfaces of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus and the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus;

instructing, with a Web service client of the external processing apparatus, an execution of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus to the first image forming apparatus based on the request from the first image forming apparatus; and

instructing, with the Web service client of the external processing apparatus, after a reception of a response to the instructing the execution of the first image forming function of the first image forming apparatus, an execution of the second image forming function of the second image forming apparatus to the second image forming apparatus based on the request received from the first image forming apparatus.